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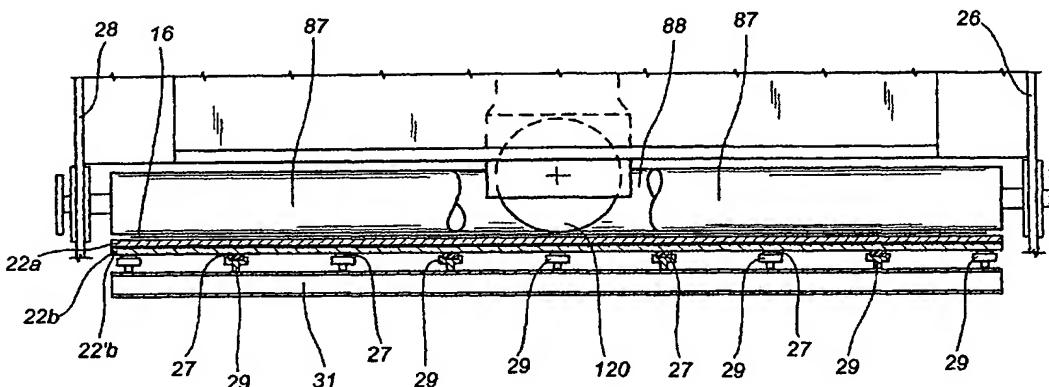
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(54) Title: AN APPARATUS AND WORK PLANE FOR CUTTING A MATERIAL



(57) **Abstract:** An apparatus (10) for cutting a material (16), in particular a fabric or the like, which is fed in the form of a continuous strip, from a respective reel (14), and cut into appropriate portions. The apparatus comprises a support frame (12), means (22) to support the material in the form of a work plane (22), on which the material is spread. Above the work plane (22) are one or more mobile cutting units (18), each with a material cutting blade (20). The work plane (22) supporting the material (16) is made from glass and is equipped with appropriate means to make the work plane elastically yielding in such a way as to perform the cutting of the material without the risk of the cutting blade damaging the work plane.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No
PCT/IB 02/02501A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
IPC 7 B26D7/20 B26D1/14

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC 7 B26D B26F

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	WO 01/039941 A (BECCARI CESARE ;BIERREBI S P A (IT)) 7 June 2001 (2001-06-07) the whole document	1-24, 29-32
X	page 23, line 20 - page 23, line 24 page 23, line 20 - page 23, line 24	33

 Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C. Patent family members are listed in annex.

° Special categories of cited documents :

- "A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
- "E" earlier document but published on or after the international filing date
- "L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)
- "O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
- "P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

- "T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the Invention
- "X" document of particular relevance; the claimed Invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
- "Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed Invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.
- "&" document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORTInternational Application No.
IB 03/02501**Box I Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 1 of first sheet)**

This International Search Report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:

1. Claims Nos.: because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:

2. Claims Nos.: because they relate to parts of the International Application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful International Search can be carried out, specifically:

3. Claims Nos.: because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).

Box II Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet)

This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows:

see additional sheet

1. As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers all searchable claims.

2. As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fee.

3. As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:

4. No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this International Search Report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.:

1-24, 29-33

Remark on Protest

- The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest.
- No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

FURTHER INFORMATION CONTINUED FROM PCT/ISA/ 210

This International Searching Authority found multiple (groups of) inventions in this international application, as follows:

1. claims: 1-24,29-33

An apparatus for cutting with a compliant work plane.

2. claim: 25

An apparatus for cutting with a particular configuration of the blade.

3. claims: 26-28

An apparatus for cutting with another particular configuration of the cutting blade.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International application No

PCT/IB/02501

Patent document cited in search report	Publication date		Patent family member(s)		Publication date
WO 0139941	A 07-06-2001	IT	B0990662 A1		04-06-2001
		AU	1543101 A		12-06-2001
		CA	2393342 A1		07-06-2001
		CN	1414897 T		30-04-2003
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